

## REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 17, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 13 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0156756 (Stanley). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention aims to logically share a single three-dimensional virtual space with a plurality of information processing apparatuses. Therefore, processing applied to an object (virtual object) at one of the information processing apparatuses is transmitted as object information to the remaining information processing apparatuses in order to allow them to ensure that the processing is reflected for the corresponding (same) virtual object in the three-dimensional virtual space presented by each of them and thereby "share" or synchronize the three-dimensional virtual space. According to the present invention, global identification information of an object to identify the object among all information processing apparatuses that share the three-dimensional virtual space is generated in each information processing apparatus based on local identification information and unique information. The local identification information is generated by respective information processing apparatus to locally identify each of objects generated by that apparatus. On the other hand, the unique information is not generated by that apparatus but is acquired from another information processing apparatus. Generating the global identification based on both the local identification information and the unique

information allows each of information processing apparatuses that share the three-dimensional virtual space to solely generate the global identification without any communication with any other apparatus.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an information processing method in an information processing apparatus, which generates an object in a three-dimensional virtual space and is connected to another information processing apparatus through a network to share the three-dimensional virtual space, the method comprising an acquisition step of acquiring unique information from the another information processing apparatus, wherein the unique information uniquely identifies the information processing apparatus on the network, an object generation step of generating an object in the three-dimensional virtual space, a first generation step of generating local identification information to identify each of objects generated by the object generation step in the information processing apparatus, a second generation step of generating global identification information of the object generated in the object generation step to identify each of the objects generated by the object generation step among all information processing apparatuses that share the three-dimensional virtual space, based on both the local identification information and the unique information of the information processing apparatus, and a transmitting step of transmitting, the global identification information with object information necessary for causing the another information processing apparatus to generate the object in the three-dimensional virtual space presented by the another information processing apparatus, to the another information processing apparatus through the network.

Claims 8 and 10 are computer medium and apparatus claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

Claim 5 is a method claim directed to an information processing method in a management information processing apparatus, the management information apparatus managing information processing apparatuses which share a three-dimensional virtual space, the method comprising a unique information determining step of determining unique information for each of the information processing apparatuses, wherein the unique information is different from each other, a sending step of sending the unique information determined in the determining step for each of the information processing apparatus to the corresponding one of the information processing apparatuses, and a receiving step of receiving object information relating to an object processed in the three-dimensional virtual space presented by one of the information processing apparatuses with global identification information including local identification information and the unique information that has been sent in the sending step, by the information processing apparatus from which the object information is sent, wherein the local identification information is used to identify the object in the information processing apparatus.

Claim 11 is an apparatus claim that substantially correspond to Claim 5.

Claim 13 is a system claim that substantially includes the features of both apparatus Claims 10 and 11.

With regard to Claims 1, 8, 10 and 13, the applied art of Stanley is not seen to teach the features of an information processing apparatus generating global identification information of an object generated in the information processing apparatus to identify each of the generated objects among all information processing apparatuses that

share the three-dimensional virtual space, based on both local identification information and unique information of the information processing apparatus, and transmitting the global identification information with object information necessary for causing another information processing apparatus to generate the object in the three-dimensional virtual space presented by the another information processing apparatus, to the another information processing apparatus through the network.

Stanley is merely seen to teach a system for integrating access to large amounts of data in different formats with specific emphasis on use in the field of genomics. Stanley is not seen to relate to the sharing of a three-dimensional virtual space among a plurality of information processing apparatuses. Additionally, Stanley is not seen to disclose or suggest how globally unique identification of an Intelligent Object is generated. Thus, Stanley is silent about generating the globally unique identification based on both local identification information for identifying each of objects generated in an information processing apparatus and unique information uniquely identifying the information processing apparatus on the network. Accordingly, Claims 1, 8, 10 and 13 are not believed to be anticipated by Stanley.

With regard to Claims 5, 11 and 13, Stanley is not seen to teach the features of a management information processing apparatus receiving object information relating to an object processed in the three-dimensional virtual space presented by one of the information processing apparatuses with global identification information including local identification information and the unique information that has been sent in the sending step, by the information processing apparatus from which the object information is sent, wherein the local identification information is used to identify the object in the information

processing apparatus. Thus, Claims 5, 11 and 13 are also not believed to be anticipated by Stanley.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Claims 1, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 13, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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